

OLC 77-4767/1

29 March 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

Office of Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT:

New Draft Bill on Terrorism

1. This memorandum is in response to your request for our comments on the new draft of the Ribicoff anti-terrorism bill.

2. Section 4(a) of the bill would require the President to submit to Congress six months after the enactment of this bill, a report on Federal and international capabilities to combat terrorism. The report would include detailed descriptions and evaluations of Federal capabilities, including intelligence gathering and analysis. Such a disclosure requirement could raise problems with respect to the protection of sources and methods. We therefore propose that the same language written into section 6(c) be also incorporated into section 4(a).

3. As we had previously noted, the list of dangerous airports required to be made publicly available by section 1115 should be kept to very general terms.

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